



DOCKET NO. 73995

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Peter Knappe et al.
Serial No.: 10/018,923
Filed: March 20, 2002
For: BACK-FLUSHABLE SPIRAL
WOUND FILTER AND METHODS
OF MAKING AND USING SAME.
Group Art
Unit: 1723
Examiner: Sun Uk Kim

RECEIVED
FEB 28 2004
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified U.S. Patent Application by deleting claims 1-11; claims 15- 43; and claims 46-65, and substituting new claims 66-83, clean copies of which follow:

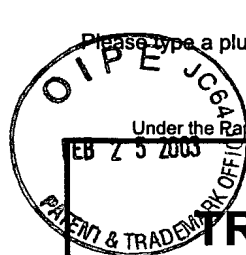
66. A system for operating a spiral wound membrane element that includes back-flushing, which system comprises:

a feed tank holding a volume of feed solution;

a spiral wound membrane element having a permeate carrier sheet, a feed spacer sheet, and a membrane filter layer sheet which element is aligned generally vertically within said feed tank, means confining said spiral wound membrane to a generally cylindrical configuration with said element being open to axial flow at both ends thereof;

a vacuum system in fluid connection with said permeate carrier sheet within said element for applying vacuum thereto to create driving pressure needed to cause the feed

9p1723



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

+

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approval for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/018,923	
	Filing Date	March 20, 2002	
	First Named Inventor	Peter Knappe	
	Group Art Unit	1723	
	Examiner Name	Sun Uk Kim (?)	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	73995/5408-

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	Second Preliminary Amendment (6 pages)
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Returned Receipt Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	James J. Schumann Reg. No. 20,856
Signature	
Date	February 19, 2003

RECEIVED
FEB 28 2004
TC 1700 MAIL ROOM

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: February 19, 2003			
Typed or printed name	James J. Schumann		
Signature		Date	February 19, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.